



State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

6 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095

(603) 271-2900 FAX (603) 271-2456

December 10, 2003



Amerada Hess Corp.
ATTN: Jim Howard
1 Hess Plaza
Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095

**NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE and
PERMIT REVOCATION – NCPR # 03-017**

RE: MERRIMACK, HESS 29304, EXISTING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK FACILITY
(UST #A-0111729) (DES #199410012)

Dear Mr. Howard:

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (“DES”) is hereby notifying you that the above-referenced facility, located at 254 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, NH is not in compliance with New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Env-Wm 1401, regulating Underground Storage Facilities. On September 10, 2003 a DES inspector conducted a compliance audit at the facility. A written document, describing the deficiencies was provided to the facility representative. This document required the facility be returned to compliance within 45 days, and DES be notified of the corrective measures taken. Compliance has not been achieved. **Failure to achieve compliance with the following deficiencies within 90 days from the date of this Notice of Non-Compliance and Permit Revocation (“Notice”) will result in revocation of your Permit-to-Operate on March 9, 2004.** This letter contains important compliance and procedural information. Please read it carefully.

Env-Wm 1401.07 Permit-to-Operate

Env-Wm 1401.07 requires that the permit-to-operate be permanently affixed on the facility premises and visible to a division inspector. The field inspection revealed that the permit was not posted. The permit-to-operate shall be posted on the facility premises and verification in writing that the permit has been posted shall be provided to DES.

2. Env-Wm 1401.25 Spill Containment and Overfill Protection

Env-Wm 1401.25 requires overfill protection devices be installed and maintained in good working order on all UST systems. DES has determined that the drop tube flapper valves were not maintained in good working order. Provide overfill protection installation or maintenance results for all three UST systems.

3. Env-Wm 1401.27 Leak Monitoring for New Underground Piping Systems and Env-Wm 1401.31 Operation of Leak Monitoring Equipment

Env-Wm 1401.27 and/or Env-Wm 1401.31 require leak monitoring for piping to be installed and continuously operate. DES has determined that the leak monitor for piping was not continuously operating. The regular STP sump needs to be drained of liquid and the sump sensor needs to be reset. The leak monitor replacement or maintenance records must be submitted to DES or notify DES that the tank system has been temporarily closed.

In addition, Env-Wm 1401.10(a) requires owners of underground storage facilities for oil to maintain financial responsibility for costs associated with cleanup of releases from systems, the implementation of corrective measures, and compensation for third party damages in the amount equal to or greater than \$1,000,000 per occurrence. Env-Wm 1401.10(c) provides that the financial responsibility requirement may be satisfied if the owner is eligible for reimbursement of costs associated with cleanup

NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE and PERMIT REVOCATION – NCPR # 03-017

December 10, 2003

Page 2 of 3

of releases from the Oil Discharge and Disposal Cleanup Fund ("the Fund"). Eligibility for the Fund is contingent upon achieving and maintaining compliance with statutory (RSA 146-C) and regulatory (Env-Wm 1401) requirement. This facility has not achieved compliance, consequently, the Fund is not available to you as a financial responsibility mechanism.

In accordance with RSA 146-C:4 and Env-Wm 1401.07(a), no person shall own or operate an underground storage facility without a permit issued by DES. Within 30 days from the date of the permit revocation the facility shall be closed in accordance with Env-Wm 1401.18 for permanent closure.

Based on the compliance deficiencies described above, DES believes this facility poses a potential substantial threat to the surface and groundwater of the state. Therefore, in accordance with RSA 146-C:4 and Env-Wm 1401.09, if compliance as requested above is not achieved within ninety (90) days of the date of this Notice your Permit-to-Operate (UST Permit #0111729) shall be revoked effective **March 9, 2004**. Within thirty (30) days of the date of permit revocation all regulated substances must be removed from the UST systems at this facility. If the facility achieves compliance during the ninety (90) day period, it is necessary that documentation be submitted to DES verifying that compliance has been attained.

You have the right to a hearing to contest these allegations before the proposed license action is taken. The hearing would be a formal adjudicative proceeding pursuant to RSA 541-A:31, at which you and any witnesses you may call would have the opportunity to present testimony and evidence as to why the proposed action should not be taken. All testimony at the hearing would be under oath and would be subject to cross-examination. If you wish to have a hearing, one will be scheduled promptly.

RSA 541-A:31 III(e) provides that you have the right to have an attorney present to represent yourself at your own expense. If the Permit is an occupational license, under RSA 541-A:31, III(f) you have the right to request DES to provide a certified shorthand court reporter at your own expense. **Such request must be submitted in writing at least 10 days prior to the proceeding.**

You may waive your right to a hearing. If you waive the hearing, DES is prepared to proceed with the actions as stated above. You should notify DES of your decision by filling out and returning the enclosed form.

If there are any questions concerning the above, may be contacted at the Waste Management Division at (603) 271-1165.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn A. Woodard", is written over a large, bold, black "COPY" stamp.

Lynn A. Woodard, P.E.

Supervisor

Oil Compliance and Initial Response Section

CERTIFIED MAIL # 7000 1670 0000 0585 2153

cc: Michael P. Nolin, Commissioner
Mark Harbaugh, DES Legal Unit
Fred McGarry, P.E., Chief Engineer, WMD
George Lombardo, P.E., WMD
Tom Beaulieu, WMD
Health Officer, Town of Merrimack